

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DICK MARQUARDT
STATE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
AND STATE FIRE MARSHAL



REPLY TO:
OLYMPIA OFFICE
INSURANCE BUILDING
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON 98504
753-7300, AREA CODE 206

OFFICE OF

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

B U L L E T I N

No. 80 - 4

December 30, 1980

Subject: VOLCANO COVERAGE

While the insurance industry responded well to the losses resulting from the unprecedented eruptions of Mount St. Helens, it became evident that greater clarity was needed in the language of homeowners and dwelling fire insurance policies with respect to volcano coverage. Accordingly, representatives of a cross section of insurers have assisted my office in the development of a suitable endorsement.

A homeowners or dwelling fire insurance policy form that provides coverage for damage resulting from volcanic eruptions will be disapproved beginning July 1, 1981, pursuant to RCW 48.18.110, if it does not contain clear and cogent terminology fairly apprising an insured as to such coverage. An endorsement in substantially the following form will be acceptable:

VOLCANIC ERUPTION ENDORSEMENT

The PERILS INSURED AGAINST section, in Section I of this policy, is changed by the addition of the following:

- a. We will cover direct loss by volcanic eruption, including volcanic blast, shock wave, lava flow, and volcanic fallout, except as to trees, shrubs, lawns, plants and grounds.
- b. We will not cover loss caused directly or indirectly by earthquake, landslide, mud flow, tidal wave, flooding, or earth sinking, rising or shifting, resulting from volcanic eruption, except for direct loss by fire, theft, or breakage of glass.
- c. One or more volcanic eruptions that occur within a 72-hour period shall constitute a single volcanic eruption.
- d. The deductible provisions of this policy are applicable to this coverage.

DICK MARQUARDT
Insurance Commissioner